THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): The Election and Other Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2003, introduced in the Lok Sabha on 13.3.2003, which has *inter alia*, also taken into consideration the recommendations of the Committee on State Funding of Elections (Indrajit Gupta Committee) was passed by the Lok Sabha on 30.7.2003 and the Rajya Sabha on 4.8.2003.

Amendments in law of evidence

2338. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to bring forward a legislation for making amendments in the law of evidence;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the proposed legislation is likely to be put in place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS): (a) and (c) The Law Commission of India has recently given a detailed report to amend the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. The said report of the Law Commission has been laid on the table of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 1st and 4th August, 2003 respectively. However, no decision has been taken by the Government to amend the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

(d) The Government would need to consider the report of the Law Commission in consultation with State Governments/Union territory Administrations.

Issuance of succession certificate

†2339. SHRI DUTTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing rules in vogue in the court of law for the issuance of succession certificate;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.